

Collaboration to Monitor the Coast
The Beaches Conference
June 14, 2019

Moderator: Ruth Indrick, Kennebec Estuary Land Trust

Northeastern Coastal Stations Alliance Intertidal Monitoring

Hannah Webber, Schoodic Institute

- Collaboration of field stations along the entire coast of the Gulf of Maine (includes stations in Nova Scotia and Massachusetts)
- Gulf of Maine is warming very rapidly, even compared to the rest of the world's oceans
 - “hotspot of hotspots”
- Pooling resources/collaboration between institutions/facilities to better understand such a large system
- Problem: different institutions had different priorities in terms of time they want to spend on the project
 - Especially when they tried to measure biotic factors
- Citizen-scientists play a key role

Shell Day and Ocean Acidification Monitoring in the Northeast

Parker Gassett, University of Maine

Esperanza Stancioff, Maine Sea Grant/UMaine Extension

- A network to manage acidification
- Shell day: single day water monitoring blitz event: August 22
- Created a GIS map layer of water monitoring stations throughout NE coastline
- At least 2 out of 4 of the following parameters are needed to get a really good look at of ocean acidification/how it affects shell creatures: pH, Total Alkalinity, DIC, pCO₂
 - Most stations look at pH, but the other 3 are spotty

Community Beach Cleanups

Jennifer Kennedy, Blue Ocean Society for Marine Conservation

Katie Pelon, Blue Ocean Society for Marine Conservation

- Source of beach litter varies from beach to beach: for some it comes from the ocean (i.e. lobster fishing gear), for others it is visitors to the beach
- They also do environmental education programming